

(c) the preventive steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b): The year-wise details of cases of sale of spurious fertilisers that have come to the notice of the Government during the last two years are as follows:-

<i>Years</i>	<i>No. of cases reported</i>
1989-90	9
1990-91	17

(c): The State Governments have been given requisite powers under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 to enforce quality of Fertilizers. The Government of India and the State Governments have appointed Inspectors under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 and have established a network of quality control laboratories to safe-guard the interests of the farmers.

[English]

Selection of Stenographers in ICAR

4690. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the gross irregularities committed in examination conducted by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) for selection of candidates for the post of Stenographer Gr. III in September-October, 1987;

(b) if so, the action taken against the persons found guilty;

(c) whether the result of the examination has since been declared;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (e): Sir, Indian Council of Agriculture Research had conducted an examination for selection of candidates for Steno Gr. III in September-October, 1987. On the basis of the said examination, 20 persons were found eligible for appointment. However, only 16 persons initially joined, out of which 7 subsequently left the job and presently only 9 are working. After the offer of appointment was sent to the selected candidates, a complaint was received alleging malpractices in the conduct of the said examination. The complaint was investigated in detail. Some evidence of possible tampering in two cases was found. The Govt. Examiner of Questionable Documents, Shimla was consulted in the matter. On the basis of the evidence and records available, it was felt that it would be difficult to pin-point the responsibility on any particular individual.

Allotment of Land to SCs/STs Under 20-Point Scheme

4691. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:
SHRIMADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Land allotment under 20-point scheme: Police, property dealers frighten SC/ST into silence" appearing in the Indian Express dated February 20, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the steps taken to restore the rightful ownership of the land allotted to the SCs/STs under 20-point scheme; and

(d) the action taken against the guilty police officials and the property dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Withdrawal of Cess by Oil Coordination Committee

4692. SHRI MOHAN LAL JHIKRAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for withdrawing the cess by the oil Coordination Committee related to Petroleum and Natural Gas in spite of the fact that it is likely to increase the prices of commodities and could create problems to the public; and

(b) the rates of cess in various States and the annual savings made by withdrawing Cess?

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No Cess is levied by the Oil Coordination Committee.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Price of Milk in Andaman and Nicobar Island

4694. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the

Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman-Nicobar Island Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair (ANIIDCO) has increased the price of re-constituted milk;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been protests/representations against this hike in milk price from various quarters at Port Blair;

(d) the cost of production of reconstituted milk produced by the ANIIDCO and whether there has been any increase in the price of fresh milk supplied to it by the Animal Husbandry Department of the Andaman Administration; and

(e) the subsidies/concessions etc. given to the ANIIDCO by the Government for running the milk plant and for supplying milk to the public at Port Blair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (d). The selling price of reconstituted milk was increased from Rs. 6.25 per liter to Rs. 8.00 per liter by Andaman-Nicobar Island Integrated Development Corporation Ltd (ANIIDCO) with effect from 16.9.91. The ANIIDCO received a protest letter from Bhartiya Janta Party, Andaman and Nicobar Islands in this regard. The cost of reconstituted milk produced by ANIIDCO is Rs. 7.82 per liter excluding salary competent of staff which is met out of the funds of Animal Husbandry Department of the Administration. There is no increase in price of fresh milk supplied by Animal Husbandry Department of the Administration to ANIIDCO.